Reply to Office Action Dated May 18, 2004

## **Amendment to the Claims:**

This Listing of the Claims Replaces all prior Versions and Listings of the Claims in the Application.

## **Listing of the Claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A bed system for a pickup truck, comprising:

a first member adapted for securement to a first support component associated with a truck bed, the first member having a first surface for contacting cargo and having a first edge portion extending at least partially along the periphery of the first member;

a second member adapted for securement to a second support component associated with a truck bed, the second member having a second surface for contacting cargo and having a second edge portion extending at least partially along the periphery of the second member, at least a portion of the second edge portion being oriented in at least a partially overlapping spaced relationship to at least a portion of the first edge portion at an interface; and

a cushioning element, the cushioning element being located between the overlapping first and second edge portions at the interface and being attached to not more than one of the first and second edge portions at the interface, the cushioning element being resiliently compressible and permitting relative movement between the first and second edge portions at the interface.

Claim 2 (Original): The bed system of claim 1 wherein the first member comprises a bed floor.

Claim 3 (Original): The bed system of claim 2 wherein the second member comprises a side wall member.

Claim 4 (Original): The bed system of claim 2 wherein the second member comprises a headboard member.

Claim 5 (Original): The bed system of claim 1 wherein the first member comprises a side wall member.

Claim 6 (Original): The bed system of claim 5 wherein the second member comprises a headboard member.

Claim 7 (Original): The bed system of claim 5 wherein the second member comprises a bed rail member.

Claim 8 (Original): The bed system of claim 1 wherein the first member is secured to the first support component with at least one fastener.

Claim 9 (Original): The bed system of claim 8 wherein said fastener comprises a bolt.

Claim 10 (Original): The bed system of claim 8 wherein said fastener is integral with the first member.

Claim 11 (Original): The bed system of claim 1 wherein the first member is secured to the first support component with an adhesive.

Claim 12 (Original): The bed system of claim 1 wherein the first member comprises plastic.

Claim 13 (Original): The bed system of claim 12 wherein the second member comprises plastic.

Claim 14 (Original): The bed system of claim 1 wherein the first support component is integral with a pickup truck unibody.

Claim 15 (Original): The bed system of claim 14 wherein the second support component is integral with a pickup truck unibody.

Claim 16 (Original): The bed system of claim 1 wherein the first support component comprises metal.

Claim 17 (Original): The bed system of claim 16 wherein the second support component comprises metal.

Claim 18 (Original): The bed system of claim 1 wherein the first support component is integral with the second support component.

Claim 19 (Original): The bed system of claim 1 wherein the cushioning element comprises open-celled foam.

Claim 20 (Original): The bed system of claim 1 wherein the cushioning element comprises rubber.

Claim 21 (Original): The bed system of claim 1 wherein the cushioning element exhibits greater compressivity than does either of the first and second members.

Claim 22 (Original): The bed system of claim 1 wherein the cushioning element substantially prevents the first member from contacting the second member at the interface.

Claim 23 (Original): The bed system of claim 1 wherein the first and second members are disposed substantially coplanarly.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A bed system for a pickup truck, comprising:

a first member adapted for securement to a first support component associated with a truck bed, the first member having a first surface for contacting cargo and having a first edge portion extending at least partially along the periphery of the first member;

a bed floor adapted for receiving subjacent support from a second support component associated with a truck bed, the bed floor having a second surface for contacting cargo and

having a second edge portion extending at least partially along the periphery of the bed floor, at least a portion of the second edge portion being oriented in at least a partially overlapping spaced relationship to at least a portion of the first edge portion at an interface; and

a cushioning element, the cushioning element being located between the overlapping first and second edge portions at the interface and being attached to not more than one of the first and second edge portions at the interface, the cushioning element being resiliently compressible and permitting relative movement between the first and second edge portions at the interface.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A bed system for a pickup truck, comprising:

a left side member adapted for securement to a first support component associated with a truck bed, the left side member having a first surface for contacting cargo and having a first edge portion extending at least partially along the periphery of the left side member;

a right side member adapted for securement to a second support component associated with a truck bed, the right side member having a second surface for contacting cargo and having a second edge portion extending at least partially along the periphery of the right side member;

a bed floor adapted for receiving subjacent support from a third support component associated with a truck bed, the bed floor having a third surface for contacting cargo and having third and fourth edge portions each extending partially along the periphery of the bed floor, at least a portion of the third edge portion being oriented in at least a partially overlapping spaced relationship to at least a portion of the first edge portion at a first interface, at least a portion of the fourth edge portion being oriented in at least a partially overlapping spaced relationship to at least a portion of the second edge portion at a second interface;

a first cushioning element being located between the overlapping first and third edge portions at the first interface, the first cushioning element being resiliently compressible <u>and being</u> attached to not more than one of the first and third edge portions at the first interface, the first

<u>cushioning element</u> and permitting relative movement between the first and third edge portions at the first interface; and

a second cushioning element being located between the overlapping second and fourth edge portions at the second interface, the second cushioning element being resiliently compressible and being attached to not more than one of the second and fourth edge portions at the second interface, the second cushioning element and permitting relative movement between the second and fourth edge portions at the second interface.